

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094674

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR, UX, YO

SUBJECT: FORRESTAL PORT VISIT

REFS: (A) BELGRADE 2683; (B) STATE 84199; (C) STATE 36701

1. WE PREFER TO RETAIN OPTION TO ALLOW USS FORRESTAL TO
CONDUCT FLIGHT OPERATIONS IN THE ADRIATIC BOTH BEFORE AND
AFTER THE PLANNED PORT VISIT TO SPLIT. THE NEED FOR
PRUDENCE AND SPECIAL CARE DURING THE REINITIATION OF
FLIGHTS IN THE YUGOSLAV FLIGHT INFORMATION REGIONS
(FIR'S) IS FULLY APPRECIATED. THE INTENDED FORRESTAL
FLIGHT OPERATIONS WOULD DEMONSTRATE US INTENTIONS (1)
NORMALLY TO CONDUCT CAREFULLY CONTROLLED FLIGHTS IN
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INTERNATIONAL AIRSPACE BEFORE AND AFTER PORT VISITS, AND
(2) TO ROUTINELY NOTIFY THE YUGOSLAV AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL
AGENCY OF PLANNED FLIGHTS IN ITS FIR'S.

2. IN SUBMITTING PORT VISIT REQUEST TO MFA, WE PREFER NO
SPECIAL MENTION OF FLIGHT OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, IF A
QUESTION IS RAISED, ADVISE THAT THE PREVIOUSLY INTRODUCED

PROCEDURES (REFTEL C) WILL BE USED TO NOTIFY THE YUGOSLAV AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AGENCY OF PLANNED FLIGHT OPERATIONS AS A MATTER OF COURTESY AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDED FLIGHT SAFETY. ADDITIONALLY, IT CAN BE STATED THAT FLIGHTS

ARE NORMALLY CONDUCTED IN INTERNATIONAL AIR-SPACE PRIOR TO AND SOON AFTER PORT VISITS TO MAINTAIN OPERATING PROFICIENCY.

3. IF FORRESTAL VISIT IS APPROVED, NAVY IS INTERESTED IN EXTENDING INVITATION TO YUGOSLAV AIR DEFENSE OFFICIALS TO VISIT FORRESTAL AND OBSERVE AIR CONTROL PROCEDURES.

4. WE HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO AVOID ANY PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH SUBMISSION OF THE REQUEST LESS THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO THE VISIT, BUT BELIEVE IT CONTINUES TO BE WORTHWHILE TO ATTEMPT A VISIT WITH FLIGHT OPERATIONS IN THE FALL FOR ANOTHER CARRIER PORT VISIT AND ASSOCIATED FLIGHT OPERATIONS, PLUS A POSSIBLE VISIT LATER BY A NUCLEAR POWERED SHIP, POSSIBLY A CRUISER. REQUEST YOU SUBMIT REQUEST FOR FORRESTAL VISIT AS EARLY AS PRACTICABLE. ALSO REQUEST COMMENT ON PROPOSED INVITATION.

5. WE ASSUME YOUR RECOMMENDATION FOR FORRESTAL FLIGHT OPERATIONS IN THE ADRIATIC EITHER INBOUND OR OUTBOUND, BUT NOT BOTH, WAS PROPOSED AS ANOTHER GRADUAL STEP TOWARD CONFIDENTIAL

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REESTABLISHING NORMAL FLIGHT OPERATIONS IN THE ADRIATIC AND CARRIER VISITS TO YUGOSLAV PORTS. IF IT IS EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT THAT FLIGHTS DURING BOTH TRANSITS WOULD SERIOUSLY AFFECT US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING SOONEST YOUR VIEWS SO AS TO BETTER RE-EVALUATE THE OPTIONS.
CHRISTOPHER

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